

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 104455 TOSEC 110444

EXDIS

FOL RPT GEORGETOWN 0846 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BRASILIA CARACAS
KINGSTON PORT OF SPAIN 30 APR QUOTE

S E C R E T GEORGETOWN 0846

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4 (IMPDET)

TAGS:PFOR, MILI, GY, CU

SUBJECT: PRESENCE OF CUBAN MILITARY ADVISERS CONFIRMED

REF: A. GEORGETOWN 827 B. GEROGETOWN 681

1. FOLLOWING UP ON MY CONVERSATION OF APRIL 28 WITH FONMIN FRED
WILLS (PARA 5, REFTTEL A), I SAW HIM AT SOCIAL FUNCTION EVENING
APRIL 29 AND ASKED HIM IF HE HAD BEEN ABLE TO TALK TO BRIGADIER
PRICE ABOUT THE REPORTS OF CUBAN MILITARY ADVISERS. WILLS SAID HE
HAD AND THAT QUOTE UNOFFICIALLY UNQUOTE HE COULD CONFIRM THAT THERE
WERE ABOUT A HALF DOZEN CUBAN OFFICERS GIVING INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING
QUOTE TANKS UNQUOTE. CIRCUMSTANCES DID NOT PERMIT FURTHER DISCUSS-
ION, BUT WHEN WILLS PHONED ME THIS MORNING TO PASS ON MATTERS RAISED
WITH HIM BY SOVIET AMBASSADOR (REPORTED SEPTTEL), I ASKED WHETHER
HE MEANT TANKS AT TIMEHRI AIRPORT OR SOMETHING ELSE. HE SAID THE
PEOPLE HE MENTIONED WERE AT AIRPORT BECAUSE THE REFUELING OPERATIONS

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WERE HIGHLY TECHNICAL. I REMINDED HIM THAT WHAT I HAD DISCUSSED WITH

HIM WAS SOMETHING DIFFEENT AND BROADER IN NATURE. HE ACKNOWLEDGED
HE WAS AWARE OF THIS.

2. COMMENT: THIS OBVIOUSLY IS A DODGE, THOUGH WILLS INCIDENTALLY
CONFIRMED THE PRESENCE OF CUBAN MILITARY ASSOCIATED WITH FUEL
TANKS AT BASE BY TIMEHRI AIRPORT WHICH WE REPORTED IN PARA 4,
REFTEL B. WHETHER BURNHAM AUTHORIZED WILLS TO GIVE ME THIS STORY
OR NOT, BOTH HE AND WILLS MUST REALIZE THAT IS IS ONLY A MATTER
OF TIME UNTIL COVER IS BLOWN ON PRESENCE OF CUBAN MILITARY IN
GUYANA. IT IS POSSIBLE WILLS GAVE ME THIS INFORMATION WITOUT
CONSULTING BURNHAM, AND I BELIEVE WE SHOULD HOLD OFF ANY OFFICIAL
REACTION HERE UNTIL WE HAVE STRONGER EVIDENCE WHICH WE ARE VIRTUALLY
CERTAIN TO OBTAIN BEFORE MANY DAYS HAVE PASSED. IN ANY EVENT,
I BELIEVE RAISING ISSUE IN WILLS-JUSSINGER MEETING, ASSUMING THIS
IS ON RAILS, WOULD BE MORE LIKELY TO IMPRESS GOG WITH SERIOUSNESS
OF OUR CONCERN.
KREBS UNQUOTE
SISCO

SECRET

NNN

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